

ABSTRACT

[0113] A firewall coordinates with devices in a network to create a distributed filtering system. The firewall detects an attack in the network, such as a distributed denial of service attack, and creates attack information defining characteristics of malicious packets used in the attack. The attack information is forwarded to the devices in the network. The devices use the attack information to configure themselves to detect packets having the characteristics of the malicious packets. After configuration, the devices detect and discard malicious packets.